

April – July

2016



CITY of PERTH

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by the City of Perth



New artists,

new work,

new ways of making work

All images by Daniel James Grant
unless otherwise stated.
Background images by Jarrad Seng.

The Blue Room Theatre is the state's home of independent theatre and performance – the place to go for what's next in contemporary performance.

This season presents brand new works from emerging and established artists, some who are familiar to our stage and others who are stepping onto it for the first time.

We exist to support the boldest minds, championing the now, the next and the new. We foster creative talent, giving independent theatre makers the tools to get their work seen and build a sustainable career in the industry. 90% of the box office income goes to our artists.

Our shows are affordable (costing between \$18 and \$28), as are the drinks in our bar. Feel free to hang back after the show to spend time with friends and chat with the artists.

This eclectic program of shows is unique to the here and now – we hope you discuss, debate and enjoy what's on show.

**SECURE YOUR
TICKETS NOW:**

blueroom.org.au
08 9227 7005

Box office open
Mon – Fri, 9am – 5pm
and one hour before
show time

All tickets \$18 – \$28

Want to see all seven shows in this season at a discounted rate?

The Complete Works ticket locks in your seats for every show in the season, with the flexibility to change nights or give your ticket to a friend if you can no longer make it.

A new feature is that you can choose to be booked in for Members' Nights throughout the season or you can choose a more flexible approach where you select each date you would like to attend.

Members' Nights have the added perk of complimentary snacks (courtesy of Torre Butchers) and bar specials for members before and after the show.

Best yet, you'll save 35% on full price tickets as a member and 17% as a non-member.



MEMBERS: \$126

GENERAL: \$161

You can buy the Complete Works online at blueroom.org.au or by calling us on 08 9227 7005

The Complete

Works





Selkie

RENEGADE
PRODUCTIONS

SELKIE /'selki/ noun

A creature of Gaelic mythology that exists as a seal in water, and can shed its sealskin to assume human form on land.

Life on dry ground is not well suited to a selkie. Róinnad feels the magnetic pull of the moon and the tide calling her home. Drying out, she is helpless and held captive in a body and a world which are not her own.

Written by *The Epic's* Finn O'Branagáin, *Selkie* is a provocative work exploring this mythological other who is lost in a relationship where she is both owned and prized, her identity repressed in an attempt at assimilation.

Directed by Joe Lui (*Letters Home, The Tribe*), Renegade Productions' *Selkie* takes you for a swim in a whirlpool of love, cultural exploitation, and domestic oppression.

Writer

Finn O'Branagáin

Director, Lighting & Sound Designer

Joe Lui

Producer & Publicist

Harriet Roberts

Costume & Set Designer

Cherish Marrington

Choreographer

Laura Boynes

Featuring

Paul Grabovac
Ella Hetherington
Kynan Hughes
Yilin Kong

Stage Manager

Meabh Walton

12-30
APR

7:00
PM

Tickets: **\$18 - \$28**
Groups 6+: **\$23 each**

! Recommended
for ages 15+

APRIL

M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
12	13	14	15	16			19	20	21	22	23			26	27	28	29	30		
PRE	MN											MTA								

PRE Preview MN Members' Night MTA Meet the Artists



The Mars Project

THE SKELETAL
SYSTEM

*Glowing. Stunning. Dominant. Forceful. Magnetic.
You not only have the right to be all these things...
You have the responsibility to be all these things.*

Wren is driven.
Driven to be special.
So driven she wants to up, leave and never come back –
to Earth that is.

From the frenzied world of celebrity to
the rampaging cult of 'self-fulfillment', *The Mars
Project* looks to unravel the absurdities of our Me-First
age. The award-winning team who brought you *Great
White* now presents a story about chasing your dreams
– whatever it takes.

The Mars Project explores what it takes to be
superhuman, and asks just how much we'd sacrifice for
the chance at a new life.

Writer & Director
Will O'Mahony

Producer
Meabh Walton

Lighting Designer
Chris Donnelly

Featuring
Felicity McKay
Andrea Gibbs
Luke Fewster
Steve Turner

19 APR
– 7 MAY

Tickets: **\$18 – \$28**
Groups 6+: **\$23 each**

8:30
PM

! Recommended
for ages 13+

APRIL

MAY

M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	19	20	21	22	23			26	27	28	29	30			3	4	5	6	7	
	PRE	MN						MTA											*MAT	

PRE Preview MN Members' Night MTA Meet the Artists *MAT +6PM Matinee

Belated

MAIDEN VOYAGE
THEATRE
COMPANY

Everybody has friends. The ones we share a meal with, or a drink on a Friday night. The ones we tell our secrets to. And the ones we turn to when we party hard with a stranger and that stranger ends up dead.

Blythe and Max have been friends since they were kids, and to this day they're not sure how that happened. Uninterested in keeping her shit together, Blythe only says "sorry" when she doesn't mean it; Max has just quit smoking and lives with his girlfriend Norah, who stockpiles coconut water and goes to IKEA for fun.

When Blythe's relationship disintegrates, the trio become uneasy housemates. What starts off as a mild inconvenience turns into a living nightmare. Because lately, Norah can't sleep. And neither can Blythe.

The debut production from Maiden Voyage Theatre Company, *Belated* is a gritty tale of friendship and forgiveness, and the lengths we'll go to for the people we love.

Writer & Producer

Liz Newell

Director

Emily McLean

Lighting & Sound

Designer

Joe Lui

Costume & Set

Designer

Tessa Darcey

Featuring

Emily Kennedy

Maja Liwszyc

Benj D'Addario

Peter Lane Townsend

Stage Manager

Meabh Walton

Publicist

Magda Spychalska

10-28
MAY

Tickets: **\$18 - \$28**
Groups 6+: **\$23 each**

7:00
PM

! Recommended
for ages 15+

MAY

M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	10	11	12	13	14		17	18	19	20	21			24	25	26	27	28		
	PRE	MN									MTA									

PRE Preview MN Members' Night MTA Meet the Artists



HART

SHE SAID
THEATRE

"I was always like, like a magnet with my Dad, like everywhere he went I was right next to him... He never got rid of me..."

Throughout Australia's history, an unknown number of Indigenous children have been forcibly removed from their families. Parents were driven mad, grandparents heartbroken, siblings torn apart, language lost, and culture stripped away.

Using testimonials from the Stolen Generations, Noongar man Ian Michael invites you to listen in on the silenced stories of this country.

"A brave and quietly devastating performance... Moving theatre that handles some emotionally harrowing material with dignity and grace." The Age

Winner of Best Emerging Artist (Adelaide Fringe 2016)

Winner of SA Tour Ready Award (Melbourne Fringe 2015)

Winner of Best Emerging Indigenous Artist (Melbourne Fringe 2015)

Winner of Tiki Tour Ready Award (Melbourne Fringe 2015)

Performer & Co-writer
Ian Michael

Co-writer
Seanna van Helden

Director
Penny Harpham

Producer
Anna Kennedy

Lighting Designer
Shannah McDonald

Sound Designer
Raya Slavin

Set & Costume Designer
Chloe Greaves

AV Designer
Michael Carmody

Stage Manager
Tonie-Rayne Steele

24 MAY-
11 JUN

Tickets: **\$18 - \$28**
Groups 6+: **\$23 each**

8:30
PM

! Recommended
for ages 12+

MAY

JUNE

M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
24	25	26	27	28			31	1	2	3	4			7	8	9	10	11		
PRE	MN						MTA												*MAT	

PRE Preview MN Members' Night MTA Meet the Artists *MAT +4PM Matinee



Image: Jon Green

THE CUTTING
ROOM FLOOR

What's Love Got To Do With It?

No time for a broken heart? We're here to help! The Remedy™ contains three drugs that target attraction, attachment and lust to temporarily cure love. In fact, you can leave your partner today and never look back. Say goodbye to daydreaming about your crush and hello to a healthy dose of rational thinking!

What's Love Got To Do With It? takes you inside a pharmaceutical company boardroom on the brink of releasing a cure for love as five faceless board members tackle the ethical questions and financial gain in the ultimate battle of head and heart.

Directed by Rachael Woodward, *What's Love Got To Do With It?* is a fast-paced, satirical exploration of love and loss – perfect for any relationship status.

If you could buy a cure for love, would you?

Director
Rachael Woodward

Producer
Zoe Hollyoak

Lighting Designer
Scott McArdle

Sound Designer
Shaun Pickett

Set & Costume Designer
Sheridan Savage

Devisers & Performers
Jacinta Larcombe
Tristan Balz
Mariah O'Dea
Tristan McInnes
Phoebe Sullivan
Zoe Hollyoak

Stage Manager
Daley King

7-25
JUN

7:00
PM

Tickets: **\$18 – \$28**
Groups 6+: **\$23 each**

! Recommended
for ages 15+

JUNE

M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	7	8	9	10	11		14	15	16	17	18		21	22	23	24	25			
	PRE	MN						MTA												

PRE Preview MN Members' Night MTA Meet the Artists



The Astronaut

SAMANTHA
CHESTER

*"This is what I remember
My heart squeezing shut and this place -
The lonely life of a lost lander"*

Enter the wreckage of Gwen, who for twenty-something years has not ventured outside. She is a shut-in. Driven indoors by her grief and fear of human contact she has surrounded herself with the things that provide her comfort – Elvis Presley songs and her collection of jigsaw puzzles. She is obsessed with the 1969 moon landing and watches it over and over again as a signpost of hope and possibility. Gwen is stuck in time, chased by the ghosts of her past until an inevitable calling arrives.

This solo physical theatre piece celebrates the courage of the human spirit and its capacity to change. The work is a collaboration between Samantha Chester and Frances Barbe, inspired by Samuel Beckett and Chester's background in dance and devised physical theatre.

The Astronaut is an intimate tale that looks at the choices we make and the seemingly impossible act of letting go.

Concept & Performer
Samantha Chester

Director
Frances Barbe

Dramaturge
Julie-Anne Long

Lighting Designer
Matthew Osborne

Composer
Ekrem Mülayim

Designer
Isabel O'Neill

Publicist
Alison Welburn

Stage Manager
Tim Green

21 JUN
-9 JUL

Tickets: **\$18 – \$28**
Groups 6+: **\$23 each**

**8:30
PM**

! Recommended
for ages 16+

JUNE

JULY

M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
21	22	23	24	25			28	29	30	1	2			5	6	7	8	9		
PRE	MN						MTA												*MAT	

PRE Preview MN Members' Night MTA Meet the Artists *MAT +6PM Matinee



Hobo

JEFFREYTHECAT
PRODUCTIONS

Fred's lost everything – his wife, his job, his money, and to top it off, he now lives in an alleyway with a homeless blackfella named Tank. With nothing much to do and plenty more to say, both Fred and Tank share a camaraderie that is strengthened by a mutual love of music and witty banter.

Fred reckons the world's gone to sh*t and seems content in his self-imposed exile until an unexpected visit from his estranged son Terry shakes the foundations of his new reality.

Hobo is raw, crude and packed with humour, and takes a good look at what it means to be a man in an age of identity crisis.

"Intense, raw and brilliant." *Avenoir*

"A captivating drama." *The Australia Times*

"Thoroughly compelling." *Buzzcuts*

Writer & Director
James Taylor

Producer
Elinor King

Lighting Designer
Chloe Ogilvie

Sound Designer
Taylor Everitt

Set Designer
Chris Brain

Featuring
Maitland Schnaars
James Hagan

Stage Manager
Rebecca Davidse

Publicist
Krista Tanuwibawa

5-16
JUL

Tickets: **\$18 – \$28**
Groups 6+: **\$23 each**

7:00
PM

! Recommended
for ages 16+

JULY

M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	5	6	7	8	9			12	13	14	15	16	
PRE	MN							MTA					

PRE Preview MN Members' Night MTA Meet the Artists

THE ART OF EXPERIENCING THE ARTS.

Alysha from Mullaloo experiences burlesque in Perth City.

FIND YOUR VISUAL ARTS EXPERIENCE
AT VISITPERTHCITY.COM

PERTH
CITY arts



STILL OPEN!

FOR **FOOD, BOOZE AND CHILLIN'**
AFTER YOUR PERFORMANCE FINISHES!

THE EARLIEST WE CLOSE IS 1AM!

CNR WILLIAM & NEWCASTLE STREETS, NORTHBRIDGE



BIVOUCAC
CANTEEN & BAR

A licensed restaurant in the very heart of Northbridge; share Middle Eastern inspired plates, fine wines and cheeky cocktails.

Using the best local produce, Bivouac is your rest stop during the festivities.



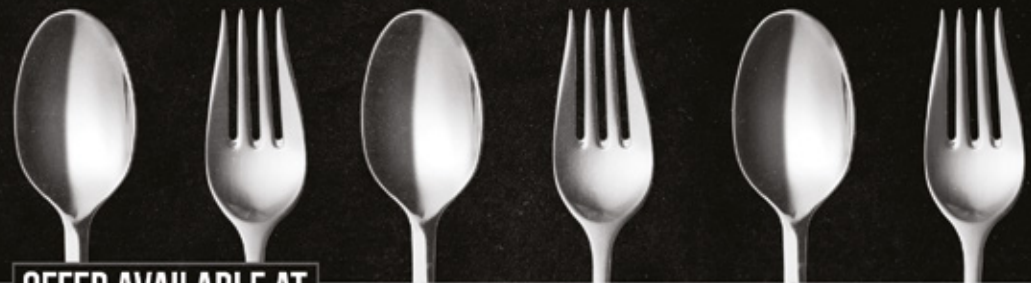
198 William St. Northbridge
www.bivouac.com.au

[bivouaccanteen](https://www.instagram.com/bivouaccanteen)

BEFORE OR AFTER YOUR PERFORMANCE, PRESENT YOUR BLUE ROOM THEATRE TICKETS TO

ENJOY AN EXCLUSIVE

\$40 TWO COURSE MEAL WITH WINE OR BEER AND \$12 DESSERT PLATTER



OFFER AVAILABLE AT

LOT
TWENTY

LOT TWENTY
NEXT TO BLUE ROOM THEATRE
AT JAMES ST CUL DE SAC ENTRANCE
WWW.LOT20.CO

FIVE

FIVE BAR
560 BEAUFORT ST.
MT LAWLEY
WWW.FIVEBAR.COM.AU

Membership



We exist to support our members. Become a member of The Blue Room Theatre and receive:

- **Cheaper tickets to shows at The Blue Room Theatre**
- **Access to free or reduced price workshops**
- **Relevant industry news and opportunities**
- **Alerts about applications for funding and Seasons**
- **Discounted rehearsal space**
- **Support**
- **Advocacy**
- **Exclusive discounts at our Members' Nights**
- **Concession price tickets at a number of other cultural institutions around town**

Head to
blueroom.org.au
to find out more
about becoming a
member.

Don't need member services but want to support independent artists? Join our Giving Program (see over page).

Since 1989, we've been at the forefront of contemporary performance in WA and that's where we remain.

We give independent artists the opportunities and skills to succeed. Unique in Australia, we support the advancement of careers and provide an unparalleled resource to emerging artists with big ideas and established artists who want to take new risks.

We're a resource organisation for artists, boasting cheap rehearsal rooms, a place for artists to gather and exchange ideas, and some of the most affordable tickets and bar prices in town.

We exist to be accessible to all and keep our prices reasonable so that a greater range of audiences can enjoy our shows.

"I always think of The Blue Room Theatre as a place where artists can take exhilarating risks. It's a space that invites great exploration, but can also be a place for brilliant intimacy and theatrical precision, and whether you're creating your first show or presenting your fiftieth, having a place like The Blue Room Theatre to do it in is a gift."

**Matthew Lutton, Artistic Director
CEO, Malthouse Theatre**

**Donate online at
blueroom.org.au
or call us on 9227 7005
and play your part in
making all this happen.**

Giving Program





One step closer to becoming carbon neutral...

In 2015 we ran a fundraising campaign to raise \$21,000 for a solar panel system for the venue. We were blown away by the generous donations from our members, artists, and supporters who helped us to raise \$22,700 – \$1,700 over our target!

We've now reached a point in the process where we are incredibly close to having these solar panels installed.

The community around The Blue Room Theatre could not have been more supportive of our goal and the result will see us reduce our power bill by one third for many years to come.

We'll use the residual funds from the campaign to continue to find energy saving measures to reduce our carbon footprint even further.

We're also committed to pursuing sustainability principles beyond energy and look forward to creative innovations in a range of areas that will help us continue to Green the Blue.



Good Play Club

The Blue Room Theatre and **Black Swan State Theatre Company** are proud to introduce Good Play Club, an initiative that invites the theatre makers of Perth to come together and stand on the shoulders of giants.

Each fortnight a different play from the canon of great theatrical works will be read at an informal gathering, followed by a guided conversation led by Black Swan

Associate Director Jeffrey Jay Fowler and an invited guest artist. We seek to foster conversation among the artists of Perth about the origins of our art form and how it has informed contemporary practice.

Places are limited for this free fortnightly event so RSVP is essential. To find out more about the next session and to RSVP, head to the Artists section of blueroom.org.au.



- 1 The Blue Room Theatre
- 2 Perth Institute of Contemporary Arts
- 3 State Theatre Centre of Western Australia
- 4 Western Australian Museum
- 5 Art Gallery of Western Australia
- 6 Perth Train Station

Follow Us

For the latest news, special offers, behind-the-scenes insights and exclusive information about our shows, follow us:

Web: blueroom.org.au
e-newsletter: [sign up at blueroom.org.au](http://sign.up.at/blueroom.org.au)
Facebook: fb.com/theblueroomtheatre
Twitter: [@The_BlueRoom_](https://twitter.com/The_BlueRoom_)
Instagram: [@theblueroomtheatre](https://instagram.com/theblueroomtheatre)

The Team



Executive Director

Kerry O'Sullivan

Producer

Susannah Day (until April 2016)

Jenna Mathie (from April 2016)

Marketing & Communications Manager

Emma Poletti

Venue & Operations Manager

Roger Miller

Associate Producer

Jenna Mathie (until April 2016)

Harriet Roberts (from April 2016)

Office & Front of House Manager

Sally Martin

Finance Officer

Karen Connolly

Board

Chair

Libby Klysz

Deputy Chair

Philippa Maughan

Treasurer

Tanya Payne

Secretary

Chris Donnelly

Ilene Aveling

Humphrey Bower

Shane Colquhoun

Dr Vanessa Rauland

Dr Renee Newman

Thanks

A big thank you to the artists we employ as front-of-house and bar staff on a casual basis and the ushers who kindly volunteer their time for us.

We would also like to acknowledge the generous support of our brochure partners: Daniel James Grant, Inland Studio and Scott Print.



Government of Western Australia
Department of Culture and the Arts



INLAND
STUDIO



The Blue Room Theatre is assisted by the Australian Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body. The Blue Room Theatre is supported by the State Government through the Department of Culture and the Arts. Our development seasons are supported by the City of Perth.